

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A method for promoting the growth of shoots from a log, the method comprising the step of applying a fertilizer solution, that comprises less than about 0.01% (w/v) nitrogen, to a member of the group consisting of an Alder log, a Beech log and a Birch log, in an amount sufficient to promote the growth of shoots from the log.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the fertilizer solution does not contain any nitrogen.
3. The method of Claim 1 wherein the fertilizer solution is applied as a mist.
4. The method of Claim 1 wherein the fertilizer solution is continuously applied to the log.
5. The method of Claim 1 wherein the fertilizer solution is intermittently applied to the log.
6. The method of Claim 3, wherein the fertilizer solution is applied at a minimum pressure of 65 psi.
7. The method of Claim 1, wherein the fertilizer solution comprises potassium and phosphorus.
8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the fertilizer solution comprises copper.
9. The method of Claim 1, wherein the fertilizer solution comprises a vitamin.
10. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the steps of harvesting at least some of the shoots from the log, planting the harvested shoots in a rooting medium in the presence of a rooting hormone, and applying a fertilizer solution, that comprises less than about 0.01% (w/v) nitrogen, to the planted shoots in an amount effective to promote growth of the shoots.
11. The method of Claim 10 wherein the rooting medium comprises perlite.

12. The method of Claim 11 wherein the rooting medium further comprises vermiculite.
13. The method of Claim 1, wherein the log is an Alder log.
14. The method of Claim 13, wherein the Alder log is obtained from an Alder tree that is between about 5 years old and about 9 years old.
15. The method of Claim 1, wherein the log is a Beech log.
16. The method of Claim 1, wherein the log is a Birch log.